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## INFORMATION REPORT

## REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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1. The Ministry of Health is located at 65, Calea Grivitei, Bucharest. Its staff consists of approximately 600 employees. In addition to the Minister, there are two Deputy Ministers and six counsellors, one of whom is a Soviet. The Ministry has separate departments for cadres; hospitals, clinics and dispensaries; planning and statistics; tuberculosis; maternal and child welfare; pharmacies; investments; and administration.
2. A new medical statute was prepared about the end of 1950 and came into force in April 1951. Up to this date Rumania had been divided into medical districts, each comprising three or four villages. According to the new law the country has been divided into 38 regions for medical purposes, somewhat larger than the former administrative "Judet." The regions have been subdivided into districts, each considerably larger than the former units. Each district has a medical unit consisting of a hospital and one or more clinics. Clinics may send their patients for hospitalization only to the hospitals of the same district. Clinic physicians spend four hours a day at the clinic and two hours at the hospital, while hospital physicians attend the clinics for at least three or four hours per week as consultants.
3. The head physician of the region, with his three assistants, is responsible for all its activities. The first assistant is responsible for the tuberculosis dispensaries and sanatoria. Vigorous campaigns are waged to influence the large number of tuberculosis patients and syphilis patients, who number about 8 to 10 percent of the whole population, to attend the respective clinics for treatment. The second assistant, who is a pediatrician, is responsible for special clinics for children up to 3 years old. The third assistant is a statistician who submits figures to the Planning and Statistics Department of the Ministry.

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4. Each district has one district head physician, unless it is also a regional headquarters, in which case the physician has a statistician assistant. The latter are not physicians; they are principally former army medical orderlies who have undergone three months' statistical training at a special school. The district head physician is responsible for all medical activities in his district, including hospitals, clinics, rural infants' welfare station, the anti-mosquito campaigns in malaria-infected places, and tuberculosis and malaria hospitals. The tuberculosis hospitals are all equipped with x-ray apparatus. The fight against malaria has proved successful, and since 1939 the number of malaria patients has decreased rapidly, although nothing but quinine is used. Endemic and epidemic diseases generally are dealt with by the district medical authorities.
5. The following number of clinics are known to exist throughout Rumania: 70 prenatal care clinics; 130 rural infant welfare clinics; 70 tuberculosis clinics; and 10 - 12 tuberculosis sanatoria. The total of beds available in all hospitals and tuberculosis sanatoria is approximately 10,000; the sanatoria alone have from 2,500 to 3,000 beds. No new hospitals have been built recently for the Ministry of Health, but a large number of clinics have been set up in private houses from which the owners have departed.
6. According to a 1950 census, there are 3,500 physicians in Bucharest, and 6,000 in the rest of the country, although a preliminary estimate had yielded a figure of 12,000. On the whole there are not enough physicians, and there is a shortage of all specialists, particularly pediatricians. In some areas a single physician now serves 10,000 persons. There are special schools for the training of auxiliary medical staff.
7. In 1949-1950 a reorganization took place in the system of medical education. The medical department then existing was replaced by the following separate departments:
  - a. General medicine: duration of studies six years.
  - b. Children's diseases: duration of studies six years.
  - c. Hygiene: duration of studies five years.
  - d. Stomatology: duration of studies four years.

After finishing their studies, students must do one year of practical work at a hospital or a clinic before they can sit for the state examinations. After the examination they may style themselves general practitioner; pediatrician, hygienist or stomatologist. The studies pursued under a, b, and c are basically the same; specialized training is obtained only in practical work. Apart from the above departments, there is a special six-months anti-malaria school and another school for blood transfusions.
8. The following universities have all four departments: Bucharest, Iasi, Timisoara, and Cluj (Cluj also has the Moghioros Hungarian department for general medicine). A second department for general medicine in which the instruction is given in Hungarian is at Targu Mures. About 600 to 700 students are graduated annually from all these universities together.
9. In 1950 a new department was created to give physicians the opportunity of gaining the title of doctor; candidates for this distinction must pass an examination in Marxist ideology and Russian language. After three years of study they receive the title of Doctor Aspirant, and after three further years of practical work at a hospital or clinic they must pass a second examination before obtaining a full doctor's degree. In 1950-1951 only 20 candidates were successful in this final examination.
10. No ordinary civilian hospital is equipped with modern medical installations. The stomatological clinics have received some new apparatus imported from

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the USSR. The use of anesthetics is not up to date. The only modern anesthetizing apparatus, which had been imported [redacted] for the Panduri Hospital (headed by Professor Burghilea), was damaged on the way and could not be repaired. There are factories in Bucharest and Cluj which produce catgut for operations, but surgical thread is always in short supply because most of the production goes to the USSR. The same is true of rubber gloves, which are replaced by other fabrics.

11. The Pharmaceutical Industry Center controls a certain number of factories producing ordinary drugs, but sulphonamides and antibiotics are very scarce. A white sulphonamide is produced in insufficient quantities by the factories referred to above, presumably because the raw material comes from abroad. Good quality sulfanilamide is imported in insufficient quantities from the USSR. Antibiotics, such as aureomycin, chloromycin and terramycin are very scarce. Gramicidine B, an antibiotic powder for external use, is obtained from the USSR, and is used successfully. Penicillin and streptomycin are available in minute quantity. Even in serious cases where 60 grams were necessary, only five grams were available. An antibiotic called penicillin crustazin was at one time imported from the USSR, and it was claimed to be 500 times more efficient than ordinary penicillin. The use of this drug was abandoned when it was found to cause local infections. Toxins and anti-malarial drugs such as paludrine, plasmoquine, atabrine and mepacrine are not available at all.
12. Each factory which employs more than 500 workers has its own clinic for workers and their families. The factory clinics, which are attached to the appropriate medical district, have three physicians each of whom works an eight-hour shift. There is a first-aid post in each factory.
13. Military medical units are not under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. Their physicians receive smaller salaries than civilians, whose monthly salary in 1951 was from 12,000 to 14,000 lei.
14. There are no blood banks. Blood donors, who are found principally among active soldiers, are paid. The blood donated is collected, sterilized and preserved in refrigerators by the Babes Institution.

15. The following personalities are known:

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- a. Penciu (Pincovoci), Ministerial Counsellor. [redacted]  
[redacted] He is Professor of Marxism-Leninism at the general medicine department in Bucharest.
- b. Dunareanu (Mendelsohn), Ministerial Counsellor. [redacted]  
[redacted]
- c. Mureseanu, Ministerial Counsellor. [redacted]  
[redacted] bald.
- d. Alexandru Stanescu, head of the cadres department. [redacted]  
[redacted]
- e. Pruteanu (Solomonovici), head of the hospitals, clinics and dispensaries department. [redacted]
- f. Mureseanu. [redacted]  
[redacted]

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